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**PHOTO
INTERPRETATION
NOTE**

**SHAURARA AIRFIELD
SAUDI ARABIA**

DECLASS REVIEW by NGA



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JUNE 1972

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GROUP 1: EXCLUDED FROM
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SHAURARA AIRFIELD,
SAUDI ARABIA

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1. Shaurara Airfield [] is approximately 30 nautical miles north of the South Yemen border, and consists of a [] east/west serviceable asphalt runway with a [] asphalt taxiway that extends north from the center of runway to a small parking apron (Figure 1). The new airfield was first observed on satellite photography of []

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2. Shaurara Airfield was formerly an Arabian American Oil Company (ARAMCO) airstrip. Due to its strategic location, the airstrip became significant as a forward-deployment field during the Saudi Arabian border dispute with South Yemen in November and December 1969. In 1970 the Saudis reportedly began development and expansion of the ARAMCO airstrip. A portion of the airfield was reportedly open for air operations on [] with the completion planned for the end of 1971.

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

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DIRNSA Message 220006Z, 21 Jul 71 (TOP SECRET [])

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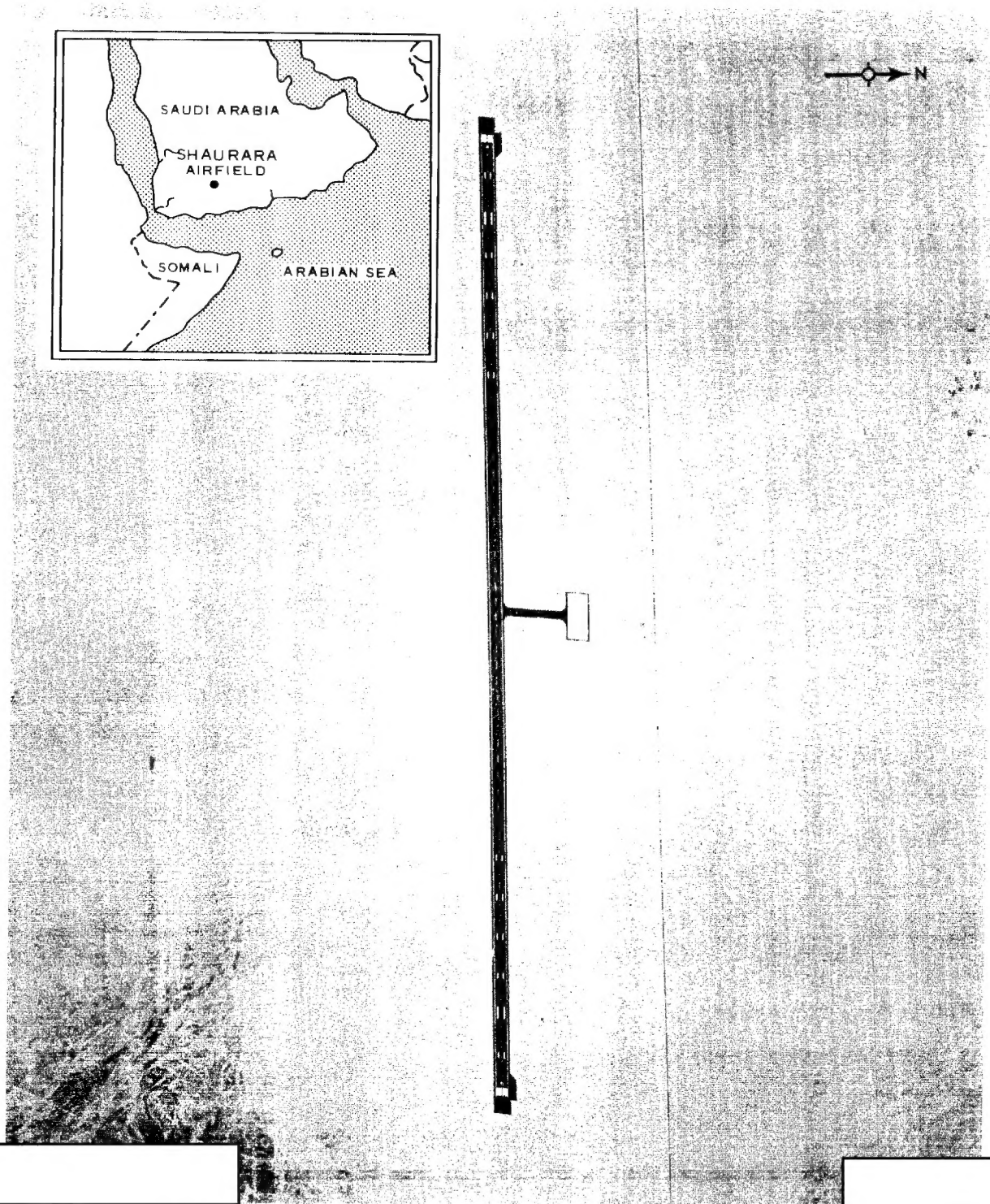
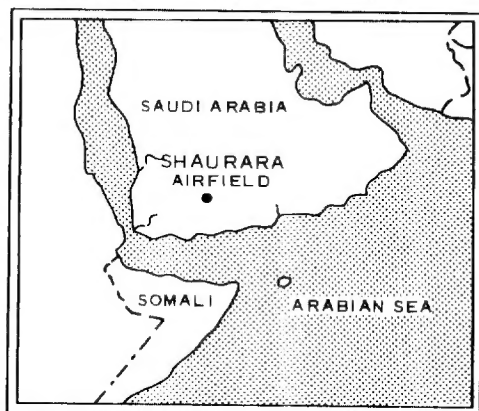
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FIGURE 1. Shaurara Airfield, Saudi Arabia

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